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Conduct of executions in jails.

* 691 Q.—Rao Sahib R Srinivasan : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state by whom executions in jails are conducted, whether by professional hangmen or by convicts under the supervision of jailors?

A.—Information has been called for.

Hiring out of prisoners to private individuals, etc.

* 692 Q.—Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether Government propose to discontinue the practice of hiring out prisoners to private individuals, municipalities and other departments except Public Works Department?

A.—No.

Increase in pulmonary tuberculosis in jails.

* 693 Q.—Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the cause of increase in pulmonary tuberuclosis in jails; and

(b) whether Government propose to take urgent measures to establish a tuberculosis jail?

A.—(a) There is no such increase.

(b) The Government have already sanctioned the construction of a separate tuberculosis jail at Bellary.

Religious and moral instruction in jails.

* 694 Q.—Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether Government propose to engage religious and moral instructors on fixed salary or remuneration to attend jails weekly?

A.—No.

Collectorates

Institution of a 'Black list' by the Collector of Kurnool.

* 695 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Collector of Kurnool has instituted a 'Black list';

(b) what the nature of offence is that brings an employee on to this list; and

(c) whether black-marks and warnings are being freely awarded to clerks for such trivial offences as omitting dotting of i's or dashing of t's?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to Board's Standing Order No. 132. The Collector is presumably maintaining, under this standing order, a conduct register in which entries of black-marks and good services are made.

(c) The Government have no reason to suppose that the fact is as suggested.

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Sir, may I know from the hon. the Revenue Member, with reference to the answer to clause (c) of the question which says that the Government have no reason to suppose that the fact is as suggested, whether he is prepared, at least for his own satisfaction, to cause enquiry to be made into the fact as to whether black-marks and warnings are being freely awarded for trivial offences ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, then, Sir, what exactly is the relief that these clerks would be entitled to in case he declines to make an enquiry at least for his own satisfaction ? That is the question I was putting. I did not want a public statement to be made. I was asking whether he would satisfy himself that the poor clerks are not put to suffering."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The remedy is in appeal to the higher authorities."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether any black list is kept by the Collector of Kurnool about the public men of the district ? " (Laughter.)

Famine

Conduct of the systematic agricultural enquiry.

* 696 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any systematic agricultural enquiry as contemplated by the Famine Commission of the Government of India in 1881 and subsequently by Dr. Volker has been completed in this presidency and, if so, when, and in what tracts or districts ;

(b) whether there are printed reports of such detailed enquiry available and whether they are for sale to the public ; and

(c) if no enquiry has been made, when the Government propose to conduct such enquiry ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to sections 7 and 8 of the Famine Code and the Statistical Atlas of the Madras Presidency which is available for sale. The last edition of the Atlas was published in the year 1924.

Land Revenue

Memorials to close the Padne bar in South Kanara.

* 697 Q.—MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur : With reference to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 118, dated 1st March 1927, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received a memorial in July 1914 from the people of Padne, Thurthi, etc , requesting the Government to save them from the devastations of the Padne bar ;

(b) whether the then Collector, Mr. Vibert, reported in 1916 on the urgent necessity of closing the new bar and opening the old bar at Kavoy ; and

(c) why the Government did not take any further steps then ?